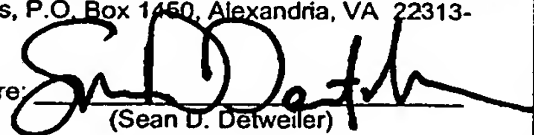


I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the U.S. Postal Service as Express Mail, Airbill No. EV 478820103 US, in an envelope addressed to: MS AF, Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450, on the date shown below.

Dated: May 21, 2004

Signature:

  
(Sean D. Detweiler)

Docket No.: ATA-333  
(PATENT)

**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

Pre Patent Application of:  
Steve A. Herweck *et al.*

Application No.: 10/045544

Art Unit: 3731

Filed: October 26, 2001

Examiner: J. W. Woo

For: BODY FLUID CARTRIDGE EXCHANGE  
PLATFORM DEVICE

**AMENDMENT AFTER FINAL ACTION (37 C.F.R. SECTION 1.116)**

MS AF  
Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Dear Sir:

**INTRODUCTORY COMMENTS**

In response to the final office action mailed March 22, 2004, entry of the below amendments, consideration of the remarks provided, and reconsideration of the application are respectfully requested.